Folder 18: Tamaree, Tillie P. (Petersburg) 1930

Petersburg Alaska
April 16th 1930

APR 26 1930

Rev A. J. Montgomery.

Dear friend

I am so glad to hear from you. We look forward of seeing you at the Presbytery meeting and C. E. Convention. but we were disappointed but however we were glad to have Mrs Thomas. her talk was very good. and traveled with us on the Gas boat Princeton, I had a fine visit with her. we reached Petersburg just in time for prayer meeting. all the ~~Missionaries~~ ministers and their wives came up to the Church. my good husband had the Church ~~papered~~ aspered and ~~painted~~ everything looked so bright and Cheerful; at the Presbytery meeting as you know I have no voice and my name is not called at the roll call, the A. & B. overture was pretty well discussed it. and I think most of our ministers voted ~~for it~~ in favore of it. I asked the moderator if I could be allowed few minuets and tell my experience in Petersburg. a baby was dying and I was called to Administer to last rite. but I could only ~~pray~~ prayer

and commit the childs soul to our Heavenly father. next day we had the funeral. another case a yaunny ~~Copy~~ Coupy want to get married. no way of reaching ordained minister. I had to call the Commissioner of M. S. A. Come to my room and marry the yaunny people. I have been adviing the people to be married by ministers. still I have another case. one of our Waiwai want to marry a white man. I advised them to wait. that Mr Waggoner was coming in two weeks. but a stormy Wing detained him. and the middle aged old people came to live together as man and wife. two weeks before Mr Waggoner arrival.

so when I stepped up on my pulpit - I felt just a little bit elevated. I took charge of the meeting and called out the speakers. we had the most helpful meeting we felt the presence of the Holy Spirit. I am keeping up with the Church news. and I am telling my people to prayer for the Power from on high. the Pentecost the Church is growing and the yaunny people are taken active part in the meetings.

it is true I have been kind of slow in sending in my reports. first- my living quarter is very poor I have no private room for my study. for two year we have been living in one room which is upstairs of an Church. When the building was bought there was no extra money for the missionary's living house. While I was East my husband fixed up this room for temporary ~~my~~ bed in one corner another bed in another corner, oil cook stove sink for dish washing. toilet stand heater in the middle of the room. I have reported this to the Committe and Mr Waggoner has been in this room and I have entertained him in this room. he took dinner With us one day and I could not find my napkins I had to let him use my apron to cover his good suit. just to show the Board that I am living in my trunk and in my suit Case for these two years. I declared this will be my last year and that I go to my home where I have every thing convenient. eight room

house and bath. but when I mentioned about retiring that my people raised so much fuss. and they were ready to sent a petition to the Committee so I had to Consent to live in one room another year. I told the Committee that there is a joint ~~house~~ property to our Church with a Cabin on it. they are Willing to sell it for five hundred dollars and addition five hundred dollars more this Could be fix up for the head quarters of the Missionary. If Dr Divers Could see the ground he can estimate just how much money it will take in fixing it up.
I have to cut my letter short and make our March report I will try to be prompt after this

faithfully yours in the Service of our Master

Mrs I K P Samaree

Mrs Wm)

May 12, 1930

Mrs. Tillie Paul Tamaree
Petersburg, Alaska.

My dear Mrs. Tamaree:

Your letter of May first, enclosing a copy of a letter to Dr. Diven, has just been received. As you perhaps know, for some years our Board has been receiving less and less from the churches. This has gone on to such an extent that money for repairs is exceedingly difficult to get. The budget for the year beginning April first is made up in December of the preceding year. It is made on the basis of the demands that are actually in sight at the time. The consequence is that there is no margin with which to meet new demands coming up like the request which you are just making. It would be impossible to do anything this year, but I will take great pleasure in listing it to be presented to the Repair Committee for next year. In case they approve it the grant can be made.

Dr. Diven has written very sympathetically, but the Board's financial condition is such that we cannot take it up this year.

Dr. Diven will also, I am sure, explain to you these circumstances.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours very cordially

A. J. Montgomery, Director
Town and Country Department

AJM-VP

Petersburg Alaska

May 1st 1930

Rev A. L. Montgomery

MAY 10 1930

Dear friend

I have enclosed a copy of a letter written to Dr Diven. he has not heard from the Board whether you would allow any fund for Petersburg missionary living quarters or not or for any improvement. I have already written you fully. and I will not take up any of your valuable time. I feel that we will have a very good year. we have better attendance in our Church Services and young peoples meetings. we have a very late Spring there were fresh snow on the mountains. and we can not plant any gardens yet.

With Christian fellowship

faithfully Yours.

Matilda K Pyamaree

Mrs Wm G

Petersburg Alaska
April 30 1930

Rev J. R. Diven

Dear friend

It was my intentions if the Board did not provide better quarters for me, there is nothing else for me to do, but give up my field, how ever first I am going to have and make a thoroughly report of my living quarters I will enclose the Copy of this letter to Dr Montgomery the Board seems to expect for me to go on with the Work the same as before, because they do not know the conditions of the Missionary's living quarters. I left everything to Mr Wagganer to report to the Board my living quarters. I have entertained him in my room, bed room setting room dining room study and a kitchen all in one. I have put up ~~with~~ living this way for two years for the sake of the Work. thinking some day the Church will give me better living quarters.

Petersburg Church is building up these three years I have been here

on the Church roll I have fifty four members. on Easter Sunday Sam George & his wife asked to be taken back into the Church. since their names are in the Church we were glad to take them back. we had a very impressive Easter Service, in the afternoon we also Organized Junior Christian Endeavores about thirty Children. all this holds me in Petersburg. all the young people and the alder people told me they gang to sent petition to the Board to keep me here. the question is this ~~the~~ whether it would be a wise move for me to leave these weak little lambs to themselves, and have a stranger Come and undo the work that we have tryed so hard to build up. I will leave this question with the one who is all Wisedom. it has been such a blessing for the people to have a Church here in Petersburg its Influences gaes out to other towns, and even among the White people

I realize I am needed in Wrangell.
I will work just the same whether
I am on a salary or not.
Many years of experience taught
me, that God is just + He will not
let His Children suffer in want of
anything. so if you can not or the
Board can not provide better quarters
for me to live in, I will come home
for I can not spend another Winter
in one room. I should have reported
this soon but I left it for Mr
Waggoner to report the Conditions
to the Board. I do not very often
make a move unless I simple
have to. I represent here the great
Presbyterian Church of U. S. A.
and I must confess I am ashame
to take any stranger to my room
its absolutely necessary to have
a better living quarters for
a Missionary

this is a Copy letter to Dr Diven

Matilda K. P. Samarel

Mrs Wm Y,

Petersburg Alaska
June 24th 1930

JUL 2 1930

Rev A J Montgomery

Dear friend just a few line to tell you how much I appreciate your kind letter. I have written to Dr Diven to drop the subject about purchasing the property, I thought in time the Church will need such property for a manse. The work here is growing and a very important field. I have been here nearly four years and I have written to the Committee. but he told me to stay until the end of Church year March 1931. and I wrote I will do my very best until that time. Thand do not know I have no plans. but since I have a home in Wrangell I think that is where I will be, four years on the field is long enough. I have had experience of fifty years not that one loses any interest, but for the good of the Worker and the people I think there should be change made once in four years. unless we have two months.

of vacation every Summer than our
mind and soul will be refreshed
for the Lord's work. we have a good
example of His life He very often
told His Disciples Let us go "hence. to a
quiet-place". even the Son of God needed
how much more we weak mortal-beings
need to refresh our minds and to learn
more about Him, last Sunday we had
a big day. Morning Service I gave them
Temperance lesson. we had very hot
subject, and we organized World
Christian Temperance Union. I organized
the alder people so that they can help
me organize the young men and young
Woman. they were all interested in it.
as I pin the white ribbon on the Woman
I told them to be very faithful the White
is for purity and love and loyality
to our Saviour and our Church. ~~and~~
our Home above and our Country
the men I made them honorary ~~M~~ members
I will sent for some badge for them
to Wear. I told them unless we stand
together against the great evil

the Ward of God Will prevail
Miss Byrnes The Temperance lecturer
Was here to inspire us. There are less
drink among our natives here.
but among the White people. the
respected ladies men of high positions
the example is most terrible.
well I have no time to talk about the
sins of others. the afternoon Service
we plan to have a wedding after
the Service. I had the Lutheran Church
Minister to come to perform the
Marriage ~~Ceremony~~ Ceremony. When the Minister
Came the young man forgot the license
and the Judge was out of town
and the marriage supper was ready
but there was nothing to be done but
make the best of the situation
until the judge arrives. fortunately
same evening. after long waiting
we had the Wedding and also good
supper. Rev Maakestad seems to have
enjoyed it. he seems to have entered the
spirit of it. all the time we were waiting
I had a good Chance to give the

the Message of Gods Ward. we had
over a hundred people waiting
in the Church. the Choir sang songs
between my talk. we held the
audience pretty well.
The Bride looked very pretty as her
father Sam George led her to the Alter
he is the brother of our faithful
elder John George. Sam just reasonly
joined the Church. the Ceremony
was the same as our Presbyterian
Church. I enjoyed every thing but
when all was over I was glad
to lie down on my bed.
I thought I was going to write only
few lines. When Haines Dewitt came he
stopped off here on his way to Kake
and he told us about his trip to
to General Assembly. he had a Wonderful
time. all day we had a missionary
~~for~~ subject. I read the account of
meeting in P. Banner and the Advance
and other Church magazines. This is two
is inspiration. we are keeping up with the
Church news.

I really must bring my letter to a close and answer some of the letters I received from Hollywood first Presbyterian Church they are so interested in mission work I write to them very often.

Dr McLennan's sermons are some times sent to me. and I always give the spirit of it to the people afternoon Service are all in English and morning partly translated. I am so intensily interested in the work. that I some times wish I was about ten years younger. I can not realize that I have lived the day When there was no Gospel message of love. yet I was not unhappy. Child. it was a case ignorance is bliss. but I was unhappy when I heard the Gospel. and School When my people would not let me attend the Church. and school. I was very unhappy Why Can't I be like other Children. attend School and learn how to read and write. the Lord opened the way for me and here I am gray headed but just as young as ever. Y.H. Yamarei